



Ministry of Northern
Development and Mines

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Friday, February 29, 2008

News Release

Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

February 06, 2007 - 034

McGuinty Government Helps Promote North At International Trade Show

Northern Businesses and Communities Prepare To Attract Business and Investment

SUDBURY – The Ontario government is helping to attract international investment in Northern Ontario's wood products sector by participating in an international trade show in Florida, Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci announced today.

"By participating in one of the premier building products events in North America, we are providing a venue for northern manufacturers and communities to raise awareness of the business opportunities that abound in Northern Ontario," said Bartolucci. "Northern representatives will be meeting potential investors, partners, agents, distributors and buyers to showcase their products and services to an international audience."

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines is coordinating an Ontario exhibit at the National Association of Home Builders International Builders Show in Orlando Florida, February 7-10. The booth includes representatives from the communities of Kenora, Red Lake and Hearst plus a number of northern manufacturers. The show annually attracts some 1,600 exhibitors and draws more than 100,000 visitors. The Northern Ontario exhibit features northern wood products and communities, as well as GO North marketing materials including the Ontario's North video.

"This is an excellent opportunity for these companies and communities to network and market themselves as an investment destination," said Bartolucci. "It is just one way we are helping to attract and generate interest in our region on an international scale, and promote all that is available in the North."

GO North is a joint initiative of the ministries of Northern Development and Mines, Finance, and Economic Development and Trade, aimed at attracting anchor international investments to northern communities. It is part of the government's Northern Prosperity Plan for building stronger northern communities. The Northern Prosperity Plan has four pillars: Strengthening the North and its Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All.

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Contacts:

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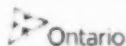
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